A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO INCLUDE A TWO PERCENT (2%) COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) FOR ALL CITY OF ATLANTA EMPLOYEES AS PART OF THE 2004 PROPOSED CITY OF ATLANTA BUDGET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has entered into a very austere fiscal condition and employees have been riffed, furloughed, forced to take lower paying positions in order to retain gainful employment; and in some cases many have been forced out due to departmental reorganizations; and

WHEREAS, most remaining City employees' salary increases or lack thereof, have not kept pace with inflation and the rising cost of dental and medical coverage; and therefore have continued to fall further behind due to the lost in purchasing power; and

WHEREAS, employees who have reached the top of their pay grade (Step 10) will actually lose money again in fiscal year 2004 under the current medical and dental plans; and

WHEREAS, most City employees who were paid from Enterprise Funds in the 2003 Budget received either a Classification Adjustment, a Step Adjustment and/or received a Performance Pay Bonus; and

WHEREAS, increases for public safety have been the cornerstone of recent budgets and regular employees have not received any compensation that would potentially make up for the dollars they lost while being Furloughed. All employees are being adversely impacted. Similarly, all employees would greatly benefit from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for the entire year of at least two percent (2%).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, as follows:

SECTION 1: That the 2004 Proposed City of Atlanta Budget include at least a two percent (2%) Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all employees, including those in status 99.

SECTION 2: That the Chief Financial Officer provide the Council with the cost associated with a two percent (2^{\%}) Cost of Living Adjustment for each fund for all city employees.